GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3203
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2002
WATER TESTING LABORATORIES
V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government sanctioned the establishment of water testing laboratories in various States;

(b) whether many States have not yet set up those laboratories and quality of the water supplied to the ruralites is not safe as has been brought out by the C&AG in its Report No. 3 of 2002 at page 115-120;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure supply of safe potable drinking water to the ruralities;

(e) whether the Government have any proposal to set up such laboratories in each district of the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this direction ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL)

(a) Yes, Sir.
(b) & (c) The details of Water Quality Testing Laboratories sanctioned and established in various States are given in the Statement at Annex - I.
(d) Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State subject.State Governments take up schemes/projects for providing drinking water in rural areas. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments and provide financial assistance under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Up to 15 % of the allotted funds can be utilised to tackle water quality problems.
(e) to (g) The Government of India provides financial assistance to State Governments to establish water quality testing laboratories in each district of the State based on the proposals received from the State Governments for the purpose.